

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

## A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS TO EXTEND THE LOGIC VOLUME MANAGER MODEL TO ALLOW DEVICE MANAGEMENT PLUG-INS

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Logical disks are provided, which are created by  
device managers. The logical volume manager is modified  
to use only logical disks. The device managers may be  
plug-in modules. This allows new device managers to be  
10 added to the logical volume manager at any time without  
changing the code in the logical volume manager.

Anything that can be made to appear as a logical disk  
through the use of a device manager plug-in may then be  
used with the logical volume manager. A device manager  
15 for network attached storage may be written allowing  
network attached storage devices to be treated as local  
disk drives by the logical volume manager, thereby  
allowing all of the capabilities of the logical volume  
manager to be used with the network attached storage  
20 devices.